

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 04276 231414Z

73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

AID-05 IO-10 /077 W

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R 222157Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8490

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EO 11652 NA

TAGS: PFOR VE OAS

SUBJ: VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S ROLE IN MAY OAS ASSEMBLY

1. FOREIGN MINISTER RAMON ESCOVAR SALOM DEVOTED MUCH OF THE WEEKEND OF APR 19-20 TO DEVELOPING VENEZUELA'S POSITION AT THE FORTHCOMING OAS ASSEMBLY ON REVISING THE OAS CHARTER AND THE INTER-AMERICAN TREATY OF RECIPROCAL ASSISTANCE. ACCORDING TO RECENT STATEMENTS BY PRESIDENT PEREZ AND ESCOVAR, THE GOV IS INTERESTED IN REJUVENATING THE OAS AND IN MAKING IT MORE RESPONSIVE TO CHANGES WHICH HAVE OCCURRED SINCE ITS FORMATION IN 1948. VENEZUELA'S INTEREST IN OAS REFORM WAS ALSO SIGNED DURING THE RECENT VISIT OF JAMAICAN PRIME MINISTER MANLEY; THE PERZ/MANLEY APR 19 JOINT DECLARATION CALLED FOR FORMULAS TO RESTRUCTURE THE OAS AND MAKE IT MORE EFFECTIVE.

(SEE SEPTTEL ON OTHER ASPECTS OF THIS JOINT DECLARATION.)

2. IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT ESCOVAR WILL PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE FORTHCOMING OAS ASSEMBLY IN PRESSING FOR REVISION OF THE OAS CHARTER. HE HAS BEEN MEETING LOCALLY WITH POLITICAL LEADERS, PROFESSORS, PARLIAMENTARIANS AND OTHERS TO OBTAIN OPINIONS ON WAYS TO REFORM THE OAS. ESCOVAR WILL DOUBTLESS DO HIS HOMEWORK CAREFULLY PRIOR TO OAS ASSEMBLY. HIGHLY-CRITICIZED VENEZUELAN MISHANDLING OF THE OAS SANCTIONS ISSUE AT NOVEMBER 1974 QUITO MEETING WAS A MAJOR

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PAGE 02 CARACA 04276 231414Z

FACTOR LEADING TO REPLACEMENT OF ESCOVAR'S PREDECESSOR, EFRAIN

SCHACHT ARISTEGUIETA.  
ASENCIO

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Review Event:**  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, VE, XM, OAS, (ESCOVAR SALOM, RAMON)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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